

VZCZCXRO0029
PP RUEHAT
DE RUEHTC #1104 1591501
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 081501Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9421
INFO RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 2733
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1711
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN 4084
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 9345
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2659
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 6649
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 0222
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1705
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 4973
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 5150
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1349
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 2169
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 4681
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1765
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0325
RUEHAT/AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM 3046
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1385
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 0131
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4283
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 0495

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 001104

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/UBI (RREITER)
STATE ALSO FOR S/GAC (CMCIFF), IO/T (GROBERTSOF)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KHIV](#) [EAID](#) [TBIO](#) [PREL](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: DUTCH ON U.S. INTEREST IN UNAIDS BOARD VICE-CHAIR
POSITION

REF: STATE 71964

THIS MESSAGE IS SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED. PLEASE HANDLE
ACCORDINGLY.

1. (U) Econoff delivered reftel points June 5 to Henriette van Gulik at the UN Candidates Desk of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and June 6 to Siemon Tuinstra, MFA's Coordinator for Task Force AIDS and Reproductive Health.

2. (SBU) Van Gulik said the GONL were aware of USG interest in serving as Vice-Chair for the UNAIDS Program Coordinating Board (PCB) during World Health Organization meetings held the week of May 21 in Geneva. Van Gulik said that while the Dutch were also interested serving as Vice-Chair, the GONL had not yet made a decision. She acknowledged that the Netherlands was not currently a member of the Board, and therefore formally ineligible for the Vice-Chairmanship. Nevertheless, if the GONL decided to proceed, she said it would discuss its interest with Belgium, the current PCB Constituency Chair, and Luxembourg, the next Chair. Van Gulik noted Dutch HIV/AIDS Ambassador Paul Bekkers would attend the June 25-27 PCB meeting in Geneva.

3. (SBU) Tuinstra confirmed the GONL had not yet decided whether to run for PCB Vice-Chair. The Dutch have both financing and staff available, he said, but a final decision depended on which other countries were interested in the position. If the U.S. were to become Vice-Chair, Tuinstra predicted some "tension" between the outgoing Swedish Chair's focus on sexuality and the USG's emphasis on ABC strategies. He also questioned whether USG interest in the UNAIDS PCB Vice-Chair signaled a greater USG desire to work within the UN system as a whole. However, he added, this interest and the doubling of USG AIDS funding were positive signs that the

U.S. wanted to play a visible role in the fight against the
virus.
ARNALL